D81

INQUIRE=DOC19D
ITEM NO=00535586
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX649 MCN = 92308/45169 TOR = 923082220
OTTCZYUW RUEKJCS4714 3082217-CCCC--RUEALGX.
ZNY CCCCC
HEADER
O 032217Z NOV 92
FM JCINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUVKSRT/12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX//IN//
RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 032216Z NOV 92
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4132
RUEHNA/DEAHQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEBMRA/USCUSTOMS WASHDC 0585
RHLBAAA/USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//CINC//
RHEHOND/ONDCP WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIAHQS WASHDC
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC
RUWMEGA/USCINCSO HOWARD AFB PM//SCJ3-DDD//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCG//
INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 3472
RUEDEEA/COMLANTAREA COGARD NEW YORK NY//A00/AI/AO//
RUETIAA/NSACSS FT MEADE MD//DCN/D00/B3//
RULSSGG/COMCOGARD WASHDC//OLE/CI/O//
RUEADND/DEA EPIC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//NCR SOUTH
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCDCS/SCJ2/SCJ2-DEA-LNO/
RUCBLBA/USCG IMLET PORTSMOUTH VA
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//CD-JIC-TS//
BT
CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LA PAZ 017370

STATE FOR ARA AMB GELBARD/AND, INM AMB LEVITSKY
DEA HQS FOR A MR BONNER, AD/MR GREENE, AD/MR COLEMAN,
DO/MR WANKEL, OF/MR MAHER, OFL, AN, NK, NP
US CUSTOMS HQS FOR COMMISSIONER HALLETT
NSC FOR R. BEERS
ONDCP FOR J. WALTERS
USIA FOR AR
USSOUTHCOM FOR SCJ3-DDD FOR GONZALES AND VERA

FROM: THE AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
IS/FPC/CDR Date: 5/26/95
MR Cases Only:
EO Citations:
TS authority to:
( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
X RELEASE
( ) EXCISE
( ) DENY
( ) DELETE
X DECLASSIFY
( ) DECLASSIFY IN PART
Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions
PA Exemptions

E. O. 12356:DECL: OADR

/********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY
TAGS: SNAR, BL
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE; P-3/E-3 SUPPORT TO OPERATION GHOST ZONE

REF: A. AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MSG 072130Z OCT 92 SUBJ: P-3 SUPPORT TO BOLIVIA (C-NOTAL)
B. AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MSG 272310Z OCT 92 SUBJ: OPERATION GHOST ZONE: NARCO AIR TRAFFICKING TRENDS, A CAUSE FOR CONCERN AND A REQUEST FOR HELP

ENTIRE TEXT CONFIDENTIAL

1. BOLIVIA HAS BEEN WITHOUT AIR SURVEILLANCE ASSETS FOR THREE MONTHS. AS A RESULT, THE TRAFFICKERS HAVE ONCE AGAIN BEGUN MOVING DRUGS VIA AIR OUT OF THE CHAPARE AND THE LA MEDIA REGION (AN AREA JUST OUTSIDE OF THE CHAPARE) WITH IMPUNITY AND WITHOUT FEAR OF INTERDICTION OR ARREST.

2. THE P-3 HAS NOT BEEN IN COUNTRY FOR ALMOST A MONTH. NOW, IN OCTOBER ALONE, TRAFFICKERS HAVE ATTEMPTED AT LEAST 21 FLIGHTS INTO THE CHAPARE, 15 OF WHICH WERE SUCCESSFUL. NINE OF THOSE SUCCESSFUL FLIGHTS OCCURRED DURING THE WEEK OF 12-18 OCT. TRAFFICKERS ARE FLYING INTO THE CHAPARE TO PICK UP 250-300 KG LOADS OF COCAINE BASE, AND ARE PAYING IN EXCESS OF 220,000 DOLLARS PER LOAD. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FROM THE FEWER FLIGHTS, SMALLER LOADS, AND HIGHER PRICES NOTED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

3. INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES THAT NO FLIGHTS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL AND AT LEAST FOUR AIRCRAFT WOULD HAVE BEEN SEIZED HAD SOME SORT OF D&M SUPPORT BEEN AVAILABLE. INTELLIGENCE TRENDS INDICATE A GROWING BOLDNESS AMONG THE TRAFFICKERS, WHO ARE ATTEMPTING AS OFTEN AS TWICE DAILY, FLIGHTS INTO THE CHAPARE AND BENI. ALL OF THE ABOVE HAS OCCURRED SINCE WE LOST OUR AIR-CAP, WHICH PREVENTED TRAFFICKER'S FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND INSTILLED FEAR IN THE TRAFFICKERS.

4. WE HAVE HAD OUTSTANDING SUCCESS WITH THESE D&M ASSETS. WHEN THEY ARE NOT HERE, WE ARE FLYING BLIND.

5. AT ONE POINT, WE HAD CLOSED DOWN ALL BUSINESS BEING CONDUCTED BY "DOCTOR", THE SECOND LARGEST NARCO-TRAFFICKER IN THE CHAPARE VALLEY AND THE BENI DEPARTMENT.

THE AIR-CAP WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REDUCTION IN NARCOTICS PROFITABILITY FOR TWO OTHER MAJOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. IN ALL CASES, THE AIR-CAP REDUCED SIGNIFICANTLY THE QUANTITY OF DRUGS LEAVING BOLIVIA WITH THE DESTINATION OF COLOMBIA AND ULTIMATELY THE UNITED STATES.

6. WE NEED MORE OF THESE ASSETS AND WE NEED TO KEEP THEM HERE. WE MUST RETAIN THE INITIATIVE TO CONTROL THE SKIES OVER THE CHAPARE AND INSTILL THE FEAR OF INTERDICTION AND ARREST IN THE TRAFFICKERS ONCE AGAIN.

7. PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR DEPOLOYMENT OF THE TEAM OF THE P-3 'SLICK'/ P-3 AEW OR THE E-3 'SENTRY' IS AS FOLLOWS:

DATES:	PRIORITY:
16-23 NOV 92	HIGH
23-29 NOV 92	MEDIUM
30 NOV-6 DEC 92	HIGH

/****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 ******/

7-13 DEC 92	HIGHEST
14-20 DEC 92	HIGH
21-27 DEC 92	MEDIUM
28 DEC-3 JAN 93	HIGHEST
4-10 JAN 93	M

EDIUM

11-17 JAN 93	HIGH
18-24 JAN 93	MEDIUM
25-31 JAN 93	HIGH
1-7 FEB 93	MEDIUM
8-14 FEB 93	HIGH
15-21 FEB 93	MEDIUM
22-28 FEB 93	HIGH

8. ALL PROPOSED DATES INCLUDE AN ENTIRE WEEKEND AS THEY ARE TYPICALLY HIGH ACTIVITY DAYS. PRIORITIES ARE BASED UPON HISTORICAL PATTERNS OF FLIGHT ACTIVITY IN THE BOLIVIAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS.

BOWERS
ADMIN
BT

#4715

NNNN